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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/821,314	04/09/2004	William J. Rex	REXIN-012A	9697
7663	7590	10/12/2005		
STETINA BRUNDA GARRED & BRUCKER 75 ENTERPRISE, SUITE 250 ALISO VIEJO, CA 92656			EXAMINER COLETTA, LORI L	
			ART UNIT 3612	PAPER NUMBER
DATE MAILED: 10/12/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/821,314

**Applicant(s)**

REX, WILLIAM J.

**Examiner**

Lori L. Coletta

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 August 2005.  
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 09 April 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 07272005.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Drawings*

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the **at least one device requiring a fluid connection for operability fixedly attached to the at least one slide out (claim 1) and a sink; a shower; a toilet; a stove; a refrigerator; an oven; and combinations thereof (claim 21)** must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole was made.

3. Claims 1 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crean 6,623,058 in view of DiBiagio et al. 5,658,031.

Regarding claim 1, Crean '058 discloses a recreational vehicle comprising a chassis; a cab and a back wall attached to the chassis; a first side wall at least partially defined by portions of the cab and the back wall; and at least one slide out moveably attached to the chassis and extending from the cab to the back wall, the slide out defining an outer wall; and the slide out being selectively moveable between a retracted position whereat the outer wall is substantially flush with the first wall, and an extended position whereat the outer wall projects outwardly from the first side wall.

However, Crean '058 does not show at least one device requiring a fluid connection for operability fixedly attached to the at least one slide out.

DiBiagio et al. '031 teaches at least one device requiring a fluid connection for operability fixedly attached to the at least one slide out.

Regarding claim 1, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the recreational vehicle of Crean '058 with at least one device requiring a fluid connection, as taught by DiBiagio et al. '031, in order to increase the usable interior space of the main room of the recreational vehicle.

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Regarding claim 21, Crean '058, as modified, discloses a recreational vehicle wherein the device is a sink.

4. Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 10-13, 15, 16 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crean 6,623,058 in view of DiBiagio et al. 5,658,031 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Crean 6,637,804.

Regarding claim 2, Crean '058, as modified, discloses a recreational vehicle wherein the first and second side walls disposed in opposed relation to each other are at least partially defined by portions of the cab and the back wall; a slide out which defines an outer wall moveably attached to the chassis and extend from the cab to the back wall and the slide out is selectively moveable between a retracted position whereat the outer walls thereof are substantially flush with the side wall, and an extended position whereat the outer walls thereof protrude outwardly from respective the side wall.

However, Crean '058 does not show pair of slide outs.

Cream '804 teaches a pair of slide outs (112 and 158) which each define an outer wall are moveably attached to the chassis in opposed relation to each other; and the slide outs are selectively moveable between a retracted position whereat the outer walls thereof are substantially flush with respective one of the first and second side walls, and an extended position whereat the outer walls thereof protrude outwardly from respective ones of the first and second side walls.

Regarding claim 2, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the recreational vehicle of Crean '058, as modified, a

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pair of slide outs, as taught by Crean '804, in order to increase the usable interior space of the main room of the recreational vehicle.

Regarding claim 3, Crean '058, as twice modified, discloses the recreational vehicle further comprising a slide out actuation mechanism attached to the chassis and cooperatively engaged to each of the slide outs, the slide out actuation mechanism being operative to move the slide outs between the extended and retracted positions.

Regarding claim 5, Crean '058, as twice modified, discloses the recreational vehicle wherein the recreational vehicle further comprises an interior floor; each of the slide outs comprise a floor portion; a portion of the interior floor is exposed between the floor portions when the slide outs are moved to the extended positions; and the interior floor includes a floor section which is moveably mounted to the chassis and selectively movable between a retracted position and an elevated position between the floor portions of the slide outs; the floor sections being moveable to the elevated position when the slide outs are in the extended position, the floor section and the floor portions of the slide outs collectively defining a generally planar floor surface when the floor section is in the elevated position.

Regarding claim 6, Crean '058, as twice modified, discloses the recreational vehicle further comprising a floor actuation mechanism attached to the chassis and cooperatively engaged to the floor section, the floor actuation mechanism being operative to move the floor sections between the retracted and elevated positions.

Regarding claim 10, Crean '058, as twice modified, discloses the recreational vehicle wherein each of the slide outs comprise a modular, pre-fabricated unit.

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Regarding claim 11, Crean '058, as twice modified, discloses the recreational vehicle wherein the recreational vehicle further comprises a roof which extends between the chassis and the back wall; and the first and second side walls are at least partially defined by portions of the cab, the back wall and the roof.

Regarding claim 12, Crean '058 discloses a recreational vehicle comprising a chassis, a cab and a back wall mounted to the chassis, and opposed first and second side walls at least partially defined by portions of the cab, the improvement comprising a slide out moveably attached to the chassis and extending from the cab to the back wall, the slide out defining an outer wall and being selectively moveable between a retracted position whereat the outer walls are substantially flush with the side wall, and an extended position whereat the outer wall protrudes outwardly from the side walls.

However, Crean '058 does not show pair of slide outs.

Cream '804 teaches a pair of slide outs (112 and 158) which each define an outer wall are moveably attached to the chassis in opposed relation to each other; and the slide outs are selectively moveable between a retracted position whereat the outer walls thereof are substantially flush with respective one of the first and second side walls, and an extended position whereat the outer walls thereof protrude outwardly from respective ones of the first and second side walls.

Regarding claim 12, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the recreational vehicle of Crean '058, as modified, a pair of slide outs, as taught by Cream '804, in order to increase the usable interior space of the main room of the recreational vehicle.

Regarding claim 13, Crean '058, as modified, discloses the recreational vehicle further comprising a slide out actuation mechanism attached to the chassis and cooperatively engaged to each of the slide outs, the slide out mechanism being operatively engaged to each of the slide outs, the slide out actuation mechanism being operative to mover the slide outs between the extended and retracted positions.

Regarding claim 15, Crean '058, as modified, discloses the recreational vehicle wherein the recreational vehicle further comprises an interior floor; each of the slide outs comprises a floor portion; a portion of the interior floor is exposed between the floor portions when the slide outs are moved to the extended position; and the interior floor includes a floor section which is moveably mounted to the chassis and selectively moveable between a retracted position and an elevated position between the floor portions of the slide outs; the floor section being moveable to the elevated position when the slide outs are in the extended position, the floor section and the floor portions of the slide outs collectively defining a generally planar floor surface when the floor section is in the elevated postion.

Regarding claim 16, Crean '058, as modified, discloses the recreational vehicle further comprising a floor actuation mechanism attached to the chassis and cooperatively engaged to the floor section, the floor actuation mechanism being operative to move the floor sections between the retracted and elevated positions.

Regarding claim 20, Crean '058, as modified, discloses the recreational vehicle wherein each of the slide outs comprise modular, pre-fabricated unit.



*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

5. Claim 4, 7, 8, 14, 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Crean 6,623,058 in view of DiBiagio et al. 5,658,031 and Crean 6,637,804 as applied to claims 2 and 12 above, and further in view of Futrell et al 5,785,373.

Regarding claim 4, Crean '804, as twice modified, discloses the recreational vehicle but does not show the slide out actuation mechanism comprises a plurality of linear actuators attached to the chassis in spaced relation to each other.

Futrell et al. '373 teach a slide out actuation mechanism comprises a plurality of linear actuators attached to the chassis in spaced relation to each other.

Regarding claim 4, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the recreational vehicle of Crean '804, as twice modified, with a slide out actuation mechanism comprises a plurality of linear actuators attached to the chassis in spaced relation to each other, as taught by Futrell et al. '373, in order to provide a power mechanism to move the slide out between its extended and retracted positions.

Regarding claim 7, Crean '804, as twice modified, discloses the recreational vehicle but does not show the floor actuation mechanism comprises a plurality of linear actuators attached to the chassis in spaced relation to each other.

Futrell et al. '373 teach a floor actuation mechanism comprises a plurality of linear actuators attached to the chassis in spaced relation to each other.

Regarding claim 7, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the recreational vehicle of Crean '804, as twice modified, with a floor actuation mechanism comprises a plurality of linear actuators attached to the chassis in spaced relation to each other, as taught by Futrell et al. '373, in order to provide a power mechanism to move the floor between its extended and retracted positions.

Regarding claim 8, Crean '804, as twice modified, discloses the recreational vehicle but does not show at least one retention mechanism cooperatively engageable to the floor section and to the floor portion of each of the slide outs, the retention mechanism being operative to secure the floor section in the elevated position.

Futrell et al. '373 teaches at least one retention mechanism cooperatively engageable to the floor section and to the floor portion of each of the slide outs, the retention mechanism being operative to secure the floor section in the elevated position.

Regarding claim 8, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the recreational vehicle of Crean '804, as twice modified, with at least one retention mechanism cooperatively engageable to the floor section and to the floor portion of each of the slide outs, the retention mechanism being operative to secure the floor section in the elevated position, as taught by Futrell et al. '373, in order to secure the floor section in the elevated position.

Regarding claim 14, Crean '804, as modified, discloses the recreational vehicle but does not show the slide out actuation mechanism comprises a plurality of linear actuators attached to the chassis in spaced relation to each other.

Futrell et al. '373 teach a slide out actuation mechanism comprises a plurality of linear actuators attached to the chassis in spaced relation to each other.

Regarding claim 14, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the recreational vehicle of Crean '804, as modified, with a slide out actuation mechanism comprises a plurality of linear actuators attached to the chassis in spaced relation to each other, as taught by Futrell et al. '373, in order to provide a power mechanism to move the slide out between its extended and retracted positions.

Regarding claim 17, Crean '804, as modified, discloses the recreational vehicle but does not show the floor actuation mechanism comprises a plurality of linear actuators attached to the chassis in spaced relation to each other.

Futrell et al. '373 teach a floor actuation mechanism comprises a plurality of linear actuators attached to the chassis in spaced relation to each other.

Regarding claim 17, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the recreational vehicle of Crean '804, as modified, with a floor actuation mechanism comprises a plurality of linear actuators attached to the chassis in spaced relation to each other, as taught by Futrell et al. '373, in order to provide a power mechanism to move the floor between its extended and retracted positions.

Regarding claim 18, Crean '804, as modified, discloses the recreational vehicle but does not show at least one retention mechanism cooperatively engageable to the floor section and to the floor portion of each of the slide outs, the retention mechanism being operative to secure the floor section in the elevated position.

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Futrell et al. '373 teaches at least one retention mechanism cooperatively engageable to the floor section and to the floor portion of each of the slide outs, the retention mechanism being operative to secure the floor section in the elevated position.

Regarding claim 18, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the recreational vehicle of Crean '804, as modified, with at least one retention mechanism cooperatively engageable to the floor section and to the floor portion of each of the slide outs, the retention mechanism being operative to secure the floor section in the elevated position, as taught by Futrell et al. '373, in order to secure the floor section in the elevated position.

6. Claims 9 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over over Crean 6,623,058 view of DiBiagio et al. 5,658,031 and Crean 6,637,804 as applied to claims 2 and 12 above, and further in view of McManus 2002/0057000.

Regarding claim 9, Crean '804, as twice modified, discloses the recreational vehicle but does not show a sensor system operative to selectively prevent the movement of the slide outs to the retracted position subsequent to the movement of the floor section to the retracted position.

McManus '000 teaches a sensor system operative to selectively prevent the movement of the slide outs to the retracted positions subsequent to the movement of the floor section to the retracted position.

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Regarding claim 9, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the recreational vehicle of Crean '804, as twice modified, with a sensor system operative to selectively prevent the movement of the slide outs to the retracted positions subsequent to the movement of the floor section to the retracted position, as taught by McManus '000, in order to ensure that the slide out and floor section move together.

Regarding claim 19, Crean '804, as modified, discloses the recreational vehicle but does not show a sensor system operative to selectively prevent the movement of the slide outs to the retracted position subsequent to the movement of the floor section to the retracted position.

McManus '000 teaches a sensor system operative to selectively prevent the movement of the slide outs to the retracted positions subsequent to the movement of the floor section to the retracted position.

Regarding claim 19, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to make the recreational vehicle of Crean '804, as modified, with a sensor system operative to selectively prevent the movement of the slide outs to the retracted positions subsequent to the movement of the floor section to the retracted position, as taught by McManus '000, in order to ensure that the slide out and floor section move together.

### ***Response to Arguments***

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

*Conclusion*

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lori L. Coletta whose telephone number is 571-272-6658. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Dayoan can be reached on 571-272-6659. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Lori L. Coletta  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3612

llc  
October 4, 2005